

THE SPOTLight

News From Councilmember Sherri Lightner

City of San Diego, District One

April 25, 2013

Representing the communities of:

- Carmel Valley
- Del Mar Mesa
- La Jolla
- Pacific Highlands Ranch
- Torrey Hills
- Torrey Pines
- University City



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Budget Season Begins at City Hall

On April 15, Mayor Bob Filner released his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014, which included a renewed focus on improving public safety and reinvesting in our neighborhoods.

Sherri applauded the Mayor's proposals to increase the number of police cadets as well as to provide better equipment for our firefighters and lifeguards so they can more effectively do their jobs.

As a huge supporter of our libraries, Sherri was also pleased to see that the Mayor would like to reinvest in our local branches by upgrading their computers.

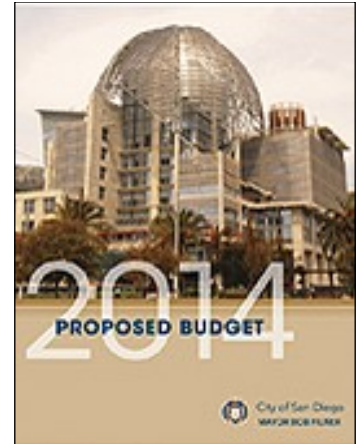
Other highlights included increased funding for community plan updates as well as arts and culture programs and

the continuation of the city's tree-trimming service.

As the chair of Rules and Economic Development, Sherri was also pleased to see a commitment to bolstering our economic development efforts with the addition of staff in this critical area.

Going forward, Sherri wants to further focus and improve upon the city's workforce development efforts so the city can begin to close its skills gap to ensure San Diego has the workers to compete in the global economy.

Sherri looks forward to working with the Mayor and her Council colleagues during the upcoming budget process to responsibly restore city services while continuing to fix the city's finances.



She believes the best way to do that would be to enter into a five-year agreement with city workers, which would freeze pensionable pay while saving the city as much as a much as \$20 million a year in the first two years alone.

Want to provide your feedback on budget priorities? Please contact Sherri at sherrilightner@sandiego.gov.

Moving Forward: Gonzales Canyon Neighborhood Park

The promise of Gonzales Canyon Neighborhood Park continues to move forward.

Gonzales Canyon Neighborhood Park Subcommittee, which was formed in March, has been working with city staff and park design consultants to come up with an exciting and fresh design for the park.

The next step is for the Carmel

Valley Recreation Council to approve a proposed design in May. Sherri is committed to continuing to do everything in her power to ensure that the much-needed Gonzales Canyon Neighborhood Park will open by December 2014.

Contact Sherri's office at sherrilightner@sandiego.gov to find out more about the park or provide your input on the design process.



Now is the time to give feedback on the design of the future Gonzales Canyon Neighborhood Park.

Fight Continues to Save the La Jolla Post Office



Sherri joined Congressman Scott Peters, Congresswoman Susan Davis and community leaders to announce an appeal to the proposed sale of the Wall Street post office.

On March 28, Sherri joined Congressman Scott Peters, Congresswoman Susan Davis and concerned community members to protest the proposed sale and relocation of La Jolla's main post office and announce they would officially appeal the decision.

Despite the community's repeated efforts, the U.S. Postal Service recently announced it was going forward with its plans to sell the historic post office. Over the last year, the community has consistently tried to work collaboratively with the

Postal Service to find a mutually beneficial solution for the Wall Street post office, which serves as a civic and economic hub for the community.

Sherri said it was unfortunate that the Postal Service is dismissing the hard and thoughtful work done by the community, especially by the La Jolla Historical Society and the Save the La Jolla Post Office Task Force, to come to a creative yet common-sense solution. "The community has always been crystal clear that any solu-

tion would have to make economic sense for both the Postal Service and for La Jolla," Sherri said. "For the Postal Service to move forward with the sale is disappointing."

Meanwhile, Congressman Peters and Congresswoman Davis continue to push for federal legislation that would allow the Postal Service to sell any post office subject to relocation to an established non-profit community organization at fair market value.

"The city is going above and beyond to ensure it is doing everything it can to protect our waterways."

Preventing Another Spill at the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon

On April 9, Sherri and the City Council unanimously approved the purchase of emergency generators for the city's wastewater facilities to ensure against future sewage spills.

The purchase was in response to the unprecedented black out on Sept. 8, 2011, which resulted in the back up of Pump Station 64 and an overflow of raw sew-

age into the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon as well as sewage spills at other wastewater facilities throughout the city.

At the time, Sherri promised her constituents that she would do everything in her power to prevent future sewage spills. These new emergency generators will do just that.

The city had been compliant with federal requirements when the 2011 spills occurred and is now going above and beyond to ensure it is doing everything it can to protect our waterways.

The city is paying for the generators from a reserved enterprise fund, so there will be no impact to the general fund.

Young Audiences of San Diego



Spreckles Elementary students exhibited their art work as part of the Young Audiences of San Diego program.

To help promote arts in education, Sherri provided a \$5,000 grant to Young Audiences of San Diego for an arts residency program at Spreckles Elementary School in University City.

As part of this innovative eight-week program, two artists-in-residence worked closely with students on hands-on painting and pottery projects. This program provided the much-needed foundation for budding artists,

instructing them in the fundamentals of the visual arts including such topics as perspective and the color spectrum.

The experience culminated in March during a final exhibition of the student's work, where children had an opportunity to show their parents and the community what they had learned.

As a huge proponent of STEAM education, which fo-

cuses on science, technology, engineering, arts, music and mathematics, Sherri was proud to help fund this cutting-edge program and its mission of exciting young minds and unleashing their creativity so we can begin to build the workforce of tomorrow.

To find out more about Young Audiences of San Diego, please visit its website at www.yasandiego.org/.

Sherri Around Town



On March 9, Sherri cheered on local high school teams at the 7th Annual San Diego Regional: FIRST Robotics Competition. This year's competition featured Frisbee-throwing robots.



Sherri delivered a proclamation in honor of the Indian Music and Dance Festival on March 23. The annual event works to foster an appreciation of Indian classical music, dance and culture in San Diego County.



On April 13, Sherri joined Councilmember Marti Emerald at Neighborhood Beat, a free CPR training program that teaches citizens life-saving techniques.



Sherri joined with her Council colleagues at the Green Students Youth Forum on March 23. The event was designed to help inspire and teach local high students about the importance of environmental sustainability.

Sherri Recognizes April as National Donate Life Month

To encourage more people to become organ donors, Sherri issued a proclamation to highlight that April is National Donate Life Month.

Right now there are more than 20,000 people in California on the organ waiting list, with 1,850 of those people right here in San Diego County.

Every 90 minutes a person dies waiting for a transplant due to

the shortage of donated organs. A single person's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine can save up to eight lives and the donation of tissues can save and heal the lives of up to 50 others.

Sherri said that signing up to be an organ donor is a simple, yet powerful way to give back.

The good news is that becoming an organ and tissue donor could

not be easier.

So far more than 10 million Californians have signed up through the state-authorized Donate Life California Registry when they apply or renew their driver licenses or ID cards at the DMV.

To find out more about organ donation, visit www.lifesharing.org/

"Signing up to be an organ donor is a simple, yet powerful way to give back."

San Diego Festival of Science & Engineering EXPO Day

Sherri joined more than 25,000 people at this year's San Diego Festival of Science & Engineering EXPO Day held on March 23 at PETCO Park.

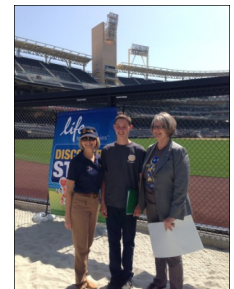
Sherri and attendees were treated to more than 100 interactive exhibits designed to get children of all ages excited about science and engineering.

Sherri, who serves on the Festival's executive committee, is a big proponent of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education and is always looking for ways to encourage young people to focus on these important skills.

While next year's festival and EXPO day is almost a year away,

the San Diego Festival of Science & Engineering is already looking for volunteers and donations. Get involved now to help ensure the continued success of this important event.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, please visit the San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering [website](http://www.sdfse.org/).



Sherri helped celebrate the San Diego Festival of Science & Engineering EXPO Day at PETCO Park.

Working for You in the Community



Need assistance in getting a pothole fixed? Call Sherri's office at (619) 236-6611. We are here to help.

Helping constituents get potholes filled, streetlights fixed and other neighborhood repairs completed is one of Sherri's top priorities. Here is a sampling of projects her office worked on this past month:

Potholes

- Mercado Drive
- Del Mar Heights Road between Pine Needles Drive and Nogales Drive
- Camino Islay and Camino Jonata
- Via de la Valle between El Camino Real and San

Andres

- Multiple potholes patched on Avenida Manana and Avenida Wilfredo
- Via Sonoma
- Via Marin and Via Mallorca
- Cactus Way

Cleanups and Repair

- Replaced street name sign at Avenida la Reina and Avenida Mirola
- Weeds sprayed on Genesee between SR 52 and Governor Drive
- Weeds sprayed on Genesee Ave and Regents Road
- Manhole cover repaired at intersection of Via La Jolla

Drive and Holiday Court

- Manhole cover repaired on Prestwick Drive
- Manhole cover repaired on Via La Jolla Drive and Holiday Court

Streetlights and Traffic Signals

- Streetlight pole reset at Del Mar Heights Road and Boquita Drive
- Stop sign replaced at the intersection of Prospect Street and Herschel Avenue
- Left-turn lane fixed from southbound Gilman Drive onto Villa La Jolla Drive

Sherri is on the Web at

sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/

Follow Sherri:



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Twitter: www.twitter.com/#!/SherriLightner



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Your Community Representatives

If you have a concern or question about an issue in your neighborhood, please contact our constituent services representative, Laena Shakarian, or your community representative. We're here to help!

Constituent Services (street repairs, water leaks, traffic issues, etc.)

Laena Shakarian ishakarian@sandiego.gov (619) 236-6611

La Jolla

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Torrey Pines/Torrey Hills

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University City / UCSD

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